(2) The draft of every set of rules proposed to be passed by the Dewan should be published in the Gazette at least six months in advance, with a view to obtain public opinion and they should be passed only after taking the opinion of the non-official members of the Council. The Member also prayed that the rules recently issued enhancing the following fees and changes might be cancelled :—

(*a*) Registration fees.
(*b*) Process fees and copying fees.
(*c*) Anchal charges.
(*d*) License fees in markets.
(*e*) Tariff rates of timber.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member is noted.

31. Necessity for introducing without further delay a Bill defining and regulating marriage, succession, partition, and family management in the Nanjanad Vellala tarwads.

Mr. Easvara Pillai Chitraputra Pillai (Member, Agastiswaram Taluk) said that the Nanjanad Vellalas were originally Pandi Vellalas and that they were makkathayees. But in course of time after their settlement in Nanjanad they allowed themselves to be governed by the Marumakkathayam law of inheritance. They were not, however, pure Marumakkathayees and they followed a system which was a blending of Makkathayam and Marumakkathayam. The Member stated that it was high time that a law regulating their customs was enacted with provisions relating to the following matters :—

(1) Individual partition ;
(2) daughters should have a right of inheritance with the sons ; and
(3) divorce should be allowed ;
  (*a*) if the husband and wife cannot live together ;
  (*b*) if any of the couple be subject to some incurable disease ; and
  (*c*) if unchastity on the part of the wife or cruelty on the part of the husband be proved.

The Member said that the Nanjanad Vellala Committee was not properly constituted, as the President was a marumakkathayee and the members were the same as those that sat on the old Committee. He submitted that, if the Government considered it necessary that a fresh Committee should enquire into their customs and make a report to Government, it should be given a President chosen from makkathayees and that it should have at least 10 members selected from those who had disapproved of the report of the old Committee and the Bill based on it.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

The Assembly adjourned at 5-30 P. M.

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